

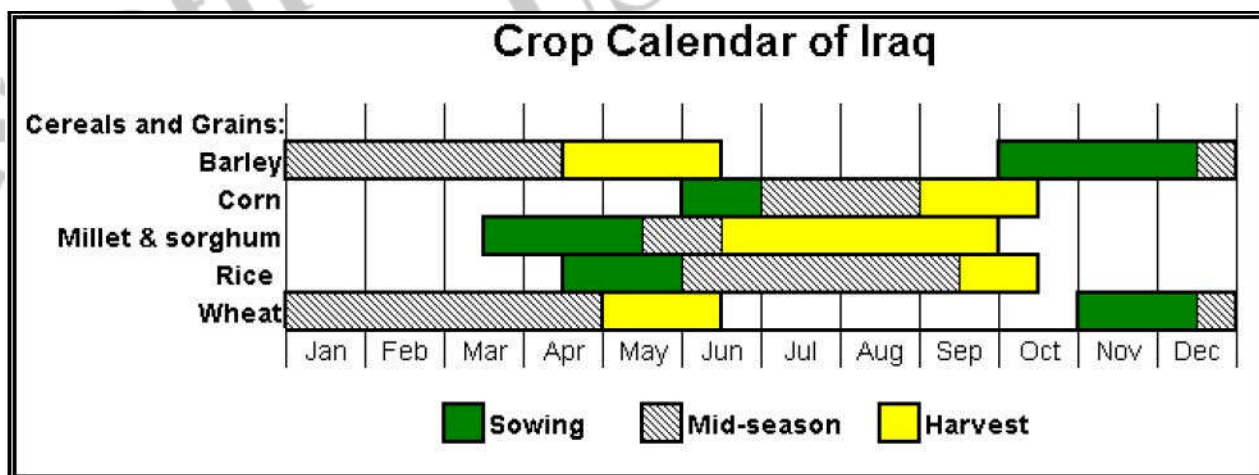
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November Report – Week 3

November 21st, 2008

1. The last week of October brought heavy rains to portions of Central and Northern Iraq. However, cumulative precipitation for the month of November has been relatively sparse in terms of establishing the rainfed winter grains crop (Figure 1).
2. The number of total rain days in the past month is likely sufficient for the smaller producing Kurdish governorates to begin sowing; however, larger producers such as Ninawa have received about 6 days of light precipitation in the past month and farmers are reportedly waiting for more rain (Figure 2). Ninawa can produce up to 30% of the countries total winter grains crop, but production is almost entirely dependent upon rainfed irrigation.
3. Temperatures for the month of October were slightly above normal in the South. The month of November is experiencing the same pattern with slightly higher than normal temperatures remaining over the Northwest (Figure 3).
4. NOAA Global Forecast System predicts slight precipitation in the next 2-days for the Kurdish governorates, but the overall 7-day outlook calls for dry conditions.



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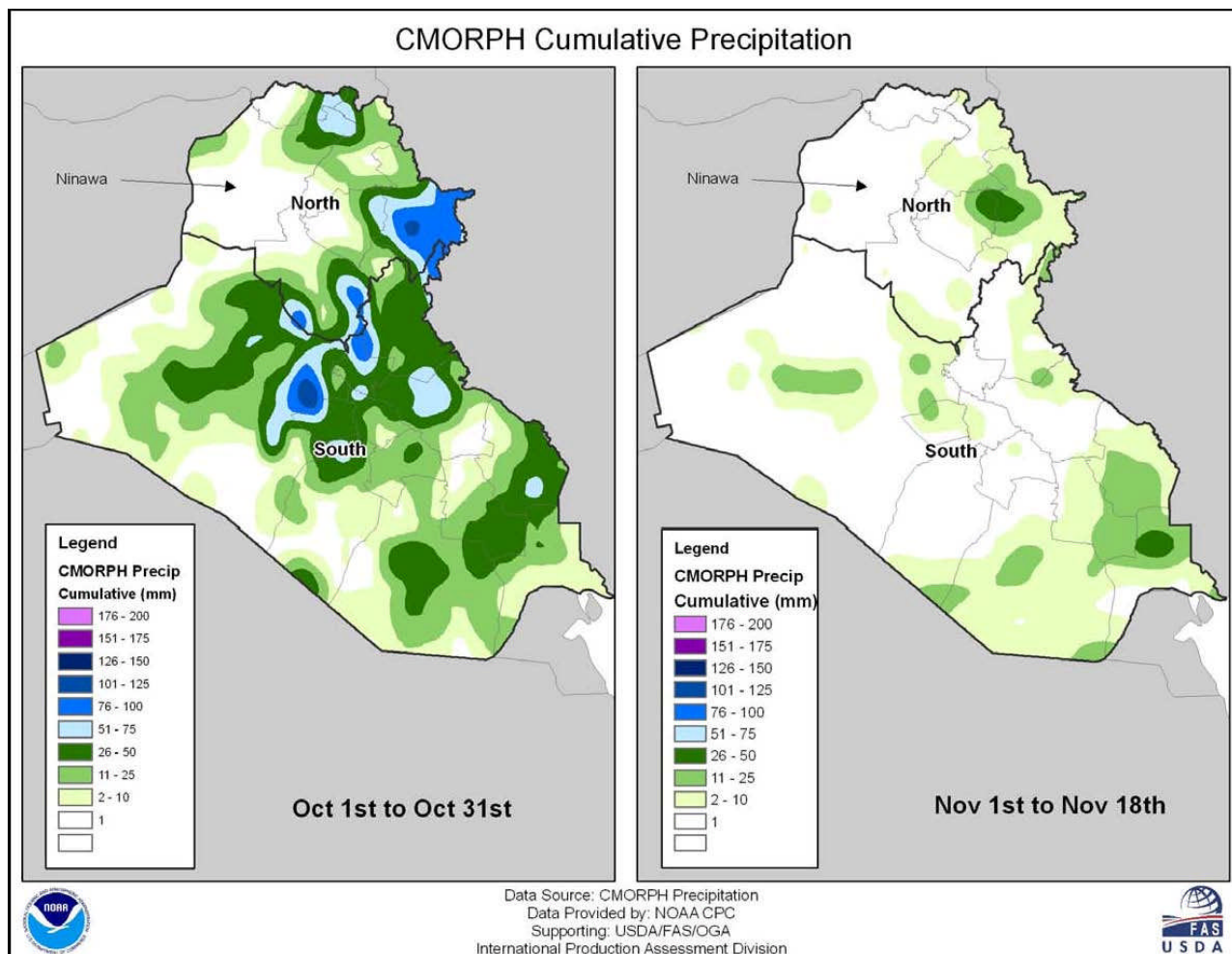


Figure 1: CMORPH cumulative precipitation: Comparing October to November.

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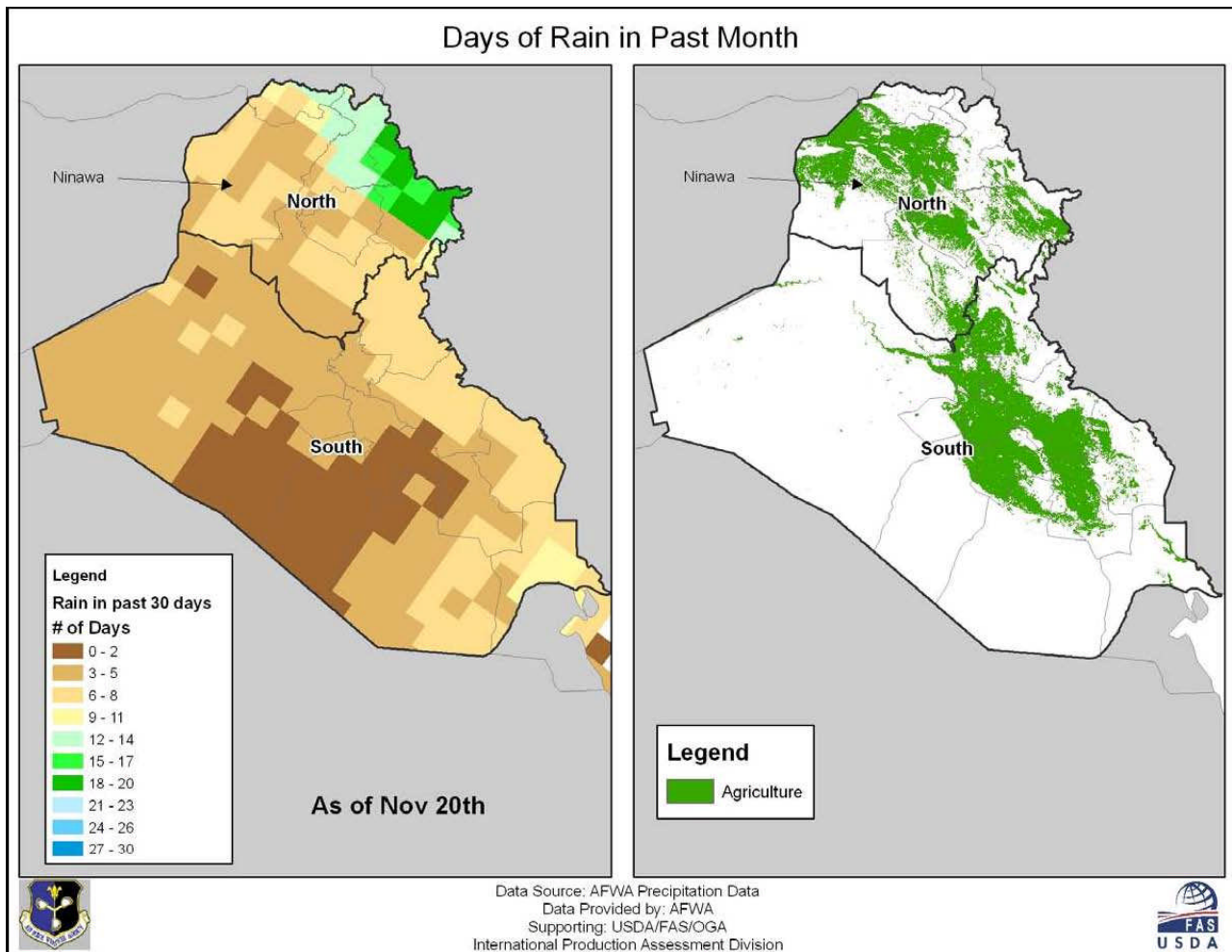


Figure 2: Number of rain days in the past month (As of November 20th, 2008)

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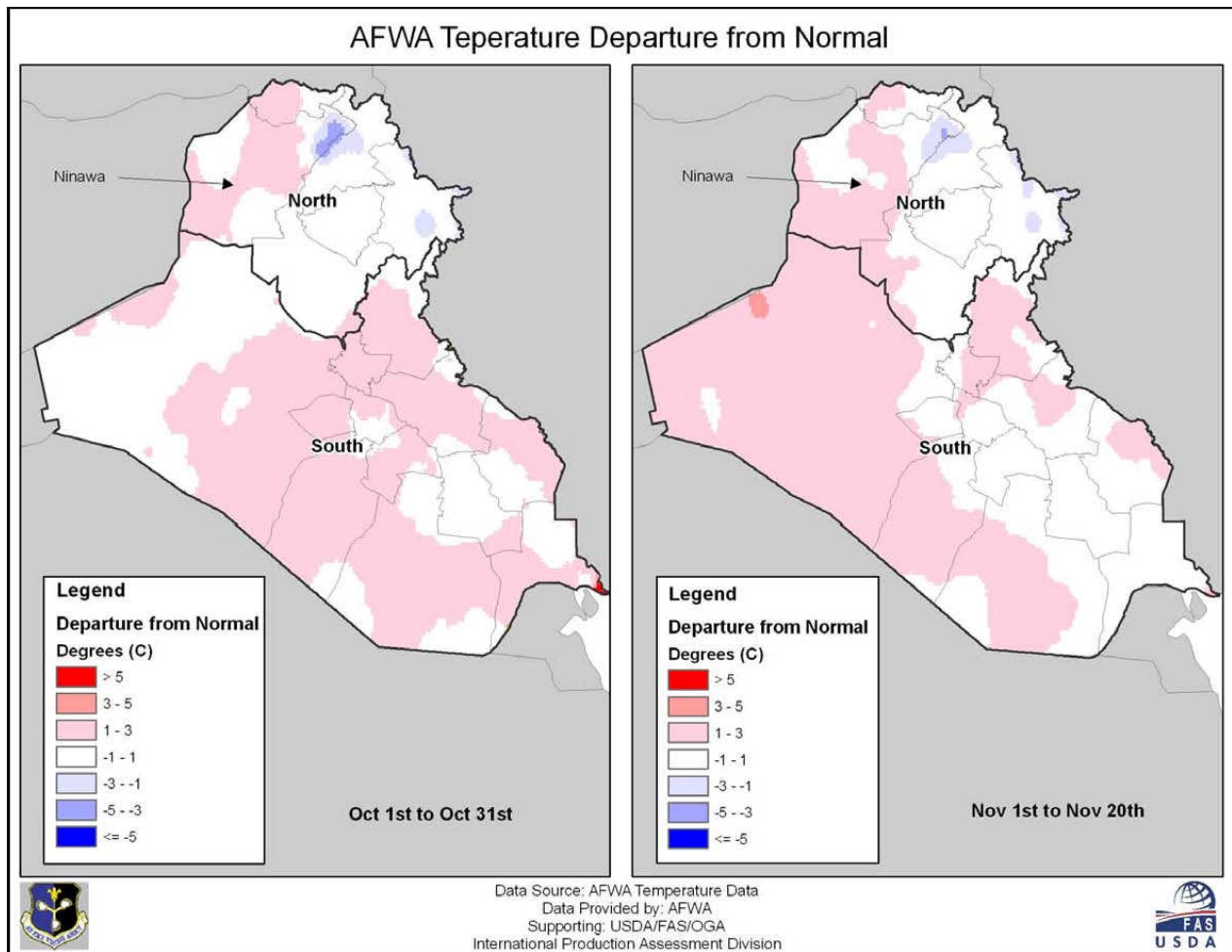


Figure 3: AFWA temperature departure from normal: Comparing October to November.